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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/870,344	05/30/2001	Tomoyuki Seki	5077-000052	8478

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EXAMINER

HARPER, HOLLY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/870,344

Applicant(s)

SEKI ET AL.

Examiner

Holly R. Harper

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The Amendment, filed on 2/12/2003, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Cancellation of claims 1-10 has been entered.

New claims 13-16 have been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seki et al. (USPN 6,084,352) in view of Kawashima et al. (USPN 6,294,870) hereinafter "Kawashima."

In regard to claim 11, the Seki reference discloses a discharge lamp with a bulb filled with a gas (Column 2, Line 3). A starting rare gas, mercury, and metal halides are used as a light-emitting substance (Column 3, Line 42). A pair of electrodes are disposed each opposing the other in the discharge tube and are electrically connected to the molybdenum foils. The

Art Unit: 2879

molybdenum foils are connected to external lead rods (Column 3, Lines 40-48). Sealing portions are found between the molybdenum foils and the electrodes (Figure 2).

The Seki reference appears to be silent to the use of a reflecting mirror and the use of the lamp as a light source in an optical system. It is well known in the art that for various devices, like optical systems, to integrate a discharge lamp with a reflecting mirror to prevent or minimize scattering of the glass in case of breakage and to facilitate maintenance of the lamp. (See Kawashima Column 4, Lines 9-30). Thus, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skills in the art to integrate the discharge lamp and a reflecting mirror.

The temperature focus region is inherent to all discharge lamps using a reflecting mirror and provides no structural limitations. The Seki reference discloses that the sealing portions are extremely lengthened so as to locate the molybdenum foils at the ends of the sealing portions away from the light emitting portion (Column 1, Lines 43-45) and intrinsically the temperature focus region along the tube axis.

In regard to claim 13, the Seki reference discloses that nitrided aluminum film is formed on the surface of both the sealing portions (Column 3, Lines 56-57). The film is made of nitrided aluminum, which is more reflective than the quartz used to make the sealing portions (Column 3, Lines 31-32).

In regard to claim 14, the Seki reference discloses a reflective film made of aluminum nitride and a sealing portion made of quartz. The limitation that the film has a heat radiation rate larger than that of the material constituting the sealing portion refers to an inherent property of the materials. The aluminum nitride film has a heat radiation rate larger than that of the quartz.

In regard to claim 15, the Seki reference discloses a connection between the foil and the lead (Column 3, Lines 46-47). The Examiner notes that the Applicant is claiming the product of a discharge lamp including a method (i.e. a process) of welding the lead and foil, consequently, claim 3 is considered a “product-by-process” claim. In spite of the fact that a product-by-process claim may recite only process limitations, it is the product and not the recited process that is covered by the claim. Further, patentability of a claim to a product does not rest merely on the difference in the method by which the product is made. Rather, is the product itself which must be new and not obvious. (see MPEP 2113).

4. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seki et al. (USPN 6,084,352) in view of Kawashima et al. (USPN 6,294,870) hereinafter “Kawashima” in further view of Shimizu (USPN 5,996,250).

The limitations of claim 11 are met by Seki in view of Kawashima and discussed above. The Seki and Kawashima references do not disclose all of the components of an optical system. The Shimizu reference teaches that using a digital micro-mirror device in projection systems can significantly improve light efficiency (Column 7, Lines 2-3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to include a digital micro-mirror device in the optical system, as taught by Shimizu, to improve light efficiency.

5. Claims 11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawashima et al. (USPN 6,294,870) hereinafter “Kawashima” in view of Seki et al. (USPN 6,084,352) hereinafter “Seki”.

In regard to claim 11, the Kawashima reference discloses a discharge lamp with a reflecting mirror, used in an optical system (Column 4, Lines 9-30 and Column 1, Lines 41-44).

Art Unit: 2879

The lamp has a discharge casing, or bulb, (Column 3, Line 32). The discharge casing is filled with mercury, a rare gas, and a halide of luminous metal (Column 3, Lines 37-38). A sealed molybdenum foil is airtightly buried in each of the two sealed portions (Column 3, Lines 35-36). The anode and cathode both have an electrode shaft, which is inserted in the sealed portion and welded to an end of the sealed molybdenum foil (Figure 13). The external lead wire is welded to the other end of the sealed molybdenum foil (Column 3, Lines 40-52). One of the pair of sealing portions is disposed on an emission direction side in the reflecting mirror (Figure 13). Thermal rays projected to the irradiated surface can be reduced by employing a mirror whose reflecting surface is capable of reflecting visible light and transmitting thermal rays (Column 11, Lines 58-61). The Kawashima reference does not disclose that one of the external leads and metal foils are connected in a position outside the temperature focus region. The Seki reference teaches that the sealing portions are extremely lengthened so as to locate the molybdenum foils at the ends of the sealing portions away from the light-emitting portion, (Column 1, Lines 43-45) and intrinsically the temperature focus region along the tube axis. This is done to prevent the foil from being oxidized (Column 1, Lines 31-32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to locate the foils at the ends of the sealing portions away from the light-emitting portions, as taught by Seki, to decrease the foil from being oxidized.

In regard to claim 16, the Kawashima reference discloses a discharge lamp with a reflecting mirror (Figure 12) and a front cover that functions as a color filter (Column 12, Line 20). Thermal rays projected to the irradiated surface can be reduced by employing a mirror whose reflecting surface is capable of reflecting visible light and transmitting thermal rays

Art Unit: 2879

(Column 11, Lines 58-61). A film on the front cover can be adapted to reflect visible light and transmit thermal rays (Column 12, Lines 15-19).

### *Conclusion*

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

### *Response to Arguments*

7. Applicant's arguments filed 2/12/2003 have been fully considered. The rejections pertaining to canceled claims are considered moot. The arguments pertaining to the remaining claims are not persuasive.

Regarding applicants claim that a discovery of a new problem and a solution to that problem has been discovered and claimed and is therefore novel, the examiner respectfully agrees. All discharge lamps with a reflecting mirror have the problem of a temperature focus

Art Unit: 2879

region. Although not necessarily for the same reasons, the structural limitations disclosed in the Seki reference produce the same results as the applicant's claim. In both cases the sealing portion is moved further from the light emitting portion and therefore out of the temperature focus region.

Regarding applicants claim that the connection portion will still be heated and a temperature increase in the connection portion will not be suppressed, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Seki states that the sealing portion is moved away from the light emitting portion. This will obviously move the connection portion farther from the light emitting portion, thereby, reducing the temperature increase. It is also noted that there is no structural limitation associated with "suppressing a temperature increase" and it is considered functional language.

Regarding applicants claim that there is insufficient motivation to combine the references, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Seki discloses a high pressure discharge lamp. Kawashima discloses a high pressure discharge lamp used with a reflecting mirror in an optical system. The Seki reference discloses features that improve the quality of the discharge lamp.

### ***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Holly Harper whose telephone number is (703) 305-7908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel, can be reached on (703) 305-4794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-7382.




Art Unit: 2879

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Holly Harper  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2879

  
**VIP PATEL  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**